

Pacific Islands Critical Habitat Update

Aloha!

Welcome to the sixth edition of the Pacific Islands Critical Habitat Update. On February 27, 2003, the final critical habitat designation for plants on Kauai and Niihau was published in the *Federal Register*. You can find a complete list of all published final rules under Published Final Rules of this newsletter.

If you would like to receive this newsletter through email, please send a request to joy_hiromasa@r1.fws.gov. Please help us reduce the amount of paper consumed by this newsletter.

If you have any questions or suggestions on the attached material, or you would like more information, please feel free to contact us at:

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Mahalo for your continued interest in Pacific islands critical habitat!

Paul Henson, Ph.D. Field Supervisor



Photo Courtesy of Greg Koob, USFWS

'Olulu, or *Brighamia insignis* is found only on Kauai and Niihau.

MEETINGS

Since all comment periods have ended, our staff has been meeting with the public to provide information regarding critical habitat. Some of the recent meetings are listed below.

RECENT MEETINGS

| Topics and Participants | Date | Location |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Kauai Cave Invertebrates; Koloa Community Neighborhood Association | January 16, 2003 | Koloa Community Center |
| General Critical Habitat; The Garden Club of Honolulu | February, 12, 2003 | The Garden Club of Honolulu |

UPCOMING MEETINGS

There are no meetings scheduled because the public comment periods on all of the plant, invertebrate, and vertebrate proposals have closed.

PUBLISHED FINAL RULES

Final rules designating critical habitat have been published in the *Federal Register* for the following species and can be found on the web at: pacificislands.fws.gov under critical habitat updates.

| RULE | DATE PUBLISHED | FEDERAL REGISTER VOL. |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Oahu elepaio | December 10, 2001 | 66 FR 63751 |
| Newcomb's snail | August 20, 2002 | 67 FR 8849 |
| Lanai Plants | January 9, 2003 | 68 FR 1220 |
| Kauai and Niihau Plants | February 27, 2003 | 68 FR 9116 |

STATUS OF FINAL RULES AND CURRENT COURT-ORDERED DEADLINES

| RULE | FINAL RULE TO BE SUBMITTED TO FEDERAL REGISTER |
|----------------------------|--|
| Molokai Plants | Feb. 28, 2003 |
| Kauai Cave Invertebrates | March 30, 2003 |
| Maui/Kahoolawe Plants | April 18, 2003 |
| NW Hawaiian Islands Plants | April 30, 2003 |
| Oahu Plants | April 30, 2003 |
| Guam and Rota Vertebrates | May 23, 2003 |
| Big Island Plants | May 30, 2003 |
| Blackburn's Sphinx Moth | May 30, 2003 |